

REMARKS

Claim 6 has been amended, 1-5 and 8-12 had been cancelled, no new claim has been added. Thus, claims 6, 7, and 13-21 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

In the Action, Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.102 (e) as being anticipated by Suzuki (USP 5, 925,445). **Applicant disagrees because of the following reasons.** The invention defined in independent claim 6 relates to a circuit board for a semiconductor device, and the characteristics of the invention claimed in claims 6 are,

- (a) a barrier including a plurality of trench, which is formed in an area where the resist film is formed between pads and terminals on the circuit board, and,
- (b) the surface of the circuit board being exposed in each trench.

According to this structure, there are no unnecessary electrical short between the pad and the terminals formed on the circuit board and the terminals so that a high reliability circuit board can be presented.

On the other hand, according to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4A in Suzuki, it is clear that a trench formed between a pad 2 and a pad 7 is prepared for creating a pad 6, and the surface of the printed wiring board 1 **is not exposed** in the trench in Suzuki. The trench as a barrier defined in the present invention should be formed in an area between the pad 2 and pad 6 in Suzuki or an area between the pad 6 and pad 7 in Suzuki. Therefore, Applicant understand that Suzuki does not

disclose any no trench acting as a barrier.

Accordingly, Suzuki does not disclose or suggest the claimed circuit board having the characteristics (a) and (b) described above, claim 6 clearly is not anticipated by Suzuki, and are deemed to be clearly patentable over Suzuki, and the rejection of claim 6 accordingly should be withdrawn. Further, claim 7 depends from claim 6. The rejection of claim 7 should also be withdrawn.

Claims 13-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki as applied to claim 6 above. Claims 13-21 depend from claim 6 directly or indirectly. As described above, since Suzuki does not disclose above-described characteristics (a) and (b), and the claim 6 would not be obvious over the Suzuki, claims 13-21 would not also obvious over Suzuki. Thus, the rejection applied to claims 13-31 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and such is earnestly solicited. Should any fee be needed, please charge it to our Account No. 50-0945 and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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